by the Detailed Project Report (DPR) consultants to be appointed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for four-laning of Deoli-Kota-Jhalawar section of NH 12. However, a bypass to Kota town on NH 76 (which intersects NH 12) has been taken up by NHAI as part of East-West corridor. The alignment of Kota Bypass on NH-76 passes through "Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary" for which permission from Hon'ble Supreme Court is being obtained. After obtaining permission from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, final clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forest is also required.

Development of Bedi Port under NMDP

1758. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat/GMB has submitted proposal to take up development of Bedi Port under National Maritime Development Programme to DG shipping, Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take-up the project under Central Assistance;

(c) if so, the status and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Development of seven minor ports from Maritime States for promotion of coastal shipping has been included in the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). As only one port from each Maritime State was to be included, Magdalla port was included from Gujarat. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of such ports is yet to be approved. Further action will be taken after the CSS is finally approved.

Four laning of Rishikesh-Haridwar highway

†1759. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for widening and converting the main

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National Highway which is leading to Rishikesh / Haridwar into a four lane Highway in view of unrestrained increase in traffic on the same;

(b) if so, by when this is likely to be widened; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by Government to tackle the increasing traffic and make the journey convenient to sacred places like Rishikesh and Haridwar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) NH-58 connects Delhi, Haridwar and Rishikesh. At present its widening from Delhi upto the junction with NH-72 (between Haridwar and Rishikesh) has been included under National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) Phase — IIIA. Four laning of NH-58 beyond this point is not envisaged at present. It is premature to indicate time frame for its widening.

Construction of Expressway under Phase VI of NHDP

1760. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had approved construction of 1,000 Km. of expressway under phase VI of the National Highway Development Programme at a cost of Rs. 16,680 crore through public-private partnership on BOT basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had also approved a new component in National Highway Development Projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the first stage of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VI, 400 Km. long Vadodara-Mumbai corridor will be taken. The balance 600 Km. will be selected from the potential routes such as Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi-Jaipur, Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Agra, Bangalore-Chennai and Kolkata-Dhanbad on the basis of prioritization study.